Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently amended) A method comprising:

obtaining, by a processor, information regarding a future backup from one or more backup applications for a plurality of backup jobs, wherein the information corresponds to at least one of a backup device, a media pool used by a backup device, scratch media currently available in a backup device, scratch media currently available in a media pool, media type, compression rate, type of backup job, location of data being backed up, historical backup size, and future scheduled backup jobs;

~~calculating~~ determining, by the processor, a projected number of media for a future execution of at least one of the backup jobs using the information regarding the future backup, said projected number of media being sufficient to ensure a future backup does not fail due to lack of loaded media, said ~~calculating~~ determining also comprising dividing an average historical backup size of the backup job by an average capacity of a media type associated with the backup job; ~~and~~

~~presenting~~ displaying the projected number of media to a user; and

loading a sufficient quantity of media into a backup device or media pool to result in the projected number of media being loaded.

2.   (Cancelled).

3.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein obtaining the information regarding the future backup further comprises obtaining information for one or more backup devices, each backup device associated with at least one of the backup jobs.

4.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 3, wherein presenting the projected number of media comprises presenting the projected number of media for each of the backup devices.

5.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein obtaining the information regarding the future backup further comprises obtaining information for one or more media pools, each media pool associated with at least one of the backup jobs.

6.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein calculating comprises, for each media pool:
     determining an existing number of media in the media pool;
     calculating the projected number of media for the future execution using the media pool; and
     subtracting the existing number from the projected number.

7.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein determining the existing number further comprises determining if a protected period for one or more existing data media has expired.

8.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein presenting the projected number of media further comprises presenting the projected number of media for each of the media pools.

9.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein calculating further comprises using the media pool information to analyze historical usage of the media pools.

10.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, further comprising presenting a report to the user identifying at least one media pool having a greater amount of media than the projected number of media for the at least one media pool.

11.   (Cancelled).

12.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
        wherein obtaining the information regarding the future backup further
               comprises obtaining information for one or more media pools,
               each media pool associated with the backup jobs; and
        wherein calculating the projected number of media further comprises
               totaling the projected number of media for each media pool to be
               used by the future execution.

13.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
        wherein the obtaining the information regarding the future backup further
               comprises obtaining information for one or more backup devices
               associated with the backup jobs; and
        wherein calculating the projected number of media further comprises
               totaling the projected number of media for each backup device to
               be used by the future execution.

14.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein calculating further comprises calculating the projected number of media for the future execution of the backup jobs scheduled within a predetermined period of time.

15.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving from the user a list of one or more media to be used.

16.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 15, further comprising for each media in the list, determining if the media is a valid media.

17.   (Currently amended) A system comprising:

a computer system configured to receive backup job information for a plurality of backup jobs from one or more backup applications, the backup job information includes an average historical backup size for one or more of the backup jobs;

[[a]] the computer system configured to ~~calculate~~ determine a target number of media for a future execution of at least one of the backup jobs using the backup job information, the target number of media being sufficient to ensure a future backup does not fail due to lack of loaded media, the target number of media for the future execution ~~calculated~~ determined by dividing the average historical backup size of the backup job by an average capacity of a media type associated with the backup job; ~~and~~

a user interface configured to ~~present~~ display the target number of media to a user; and

a backup system coupled to said computer system, said backup system being loaded with a sufficient quantity of media to result in at least the target number of media being loaded.

18.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the backup job information comprises information for one or more backup devices, each backup device associated with at least one of the backup jobs and said user interface is further to present the number of media for each of the backup devices.

19.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the backup job information includes information for one or more media pools, each media pool associated with at least one of the backup jobs and said user interface is further to present the number of media for each of the media pools.

20.   (Cancelled).

21.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 17, wherein said user interface is further configured to receive a list of one or more media to be used for at least a portion of the media.

22.   (Currently amended) The system of claim 21, wherein for each media in the list, said computer system configured to ~~calculate~~ determine a number of media is further configured to determine whether the media is a valid media.

23.   (Currently amended) A machine-readable storage medium having stored thereon sequences of instructions, which, when executed by a machine, cause the machine to:

obtain backup job information from one or more backup applications for a plurality of backup jobs, wherein the backup job information corresponds to at least one of a backup device, a media pool used by a backup device, scratch media currently available in a backup device, scratch media currently available in a media pool, media type, compression rate, type of backup job, location of data being backed up, historical backup size, and future scheduled backup jobs;

~~calculate~~ determine a proposed number of media for one or more future executions of at least one of the backup jobs using the backup job information, the proposed number of media being sufficient to ensure a future backup does not fail due to lack of loaded media; and

present display the proposed number of media to a user, wherein instructions for calculating the proposed number of scratch media comprise instructions, which, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform, for each backup job, divide an average historical backup size by an average capacity of a media type associated with the backup job; and

verify that each media specified by a user to be loaded so as to result in the proposed number of media being loaded is a valid media.

24. (Previously presented) The storage medium of claim 23, wherein when the machine presents the proposed number of media the instructions cause the machine to present the proposed number of media for one or more backup devices, each of the backup devices associated with at least one of the backup jobs.

25. (Previously presented) The storage medium of claim 23, wherein when the machine presents the proposed number of scratch media the instructions cause the machine to present the proposed number of media for one or more media pools, each media pool associated with at least one of the backup jobs.

26. (Cancelled).